

DATE: MARCH 30, 2015

MEETING NO. 03-2015

TIME: 12:00 P.M.

PLACE: MCNAUGHTON ROOM, 3RD FLOOR, CITY HALL

CHAIR: MS. A. ABU-BAKARE

PRESENT:

Ms. Amina Abu-Bakare, *Community Representative*
Ms. Shawn Carney, *Community Representative*
Councillor Rebecca Johnson
Ms. Janine Landry, *Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board*
Inspector Don Lewis, *Thunder Bay Police Service*
Councillor Paul Pugh
Mr. Vince Simon, *Community Representative*
Mr. Moffat Makuto, *Regional Multicultural Youth Council*
Ms. Tina Tucker, *Diversity Thunder Bay*
Ms. Jeannine Verdenik, *Confederation College*
Ms. Cathy Woodbeck, *Thunder Bay Multicultural Association*

GUEST:

Ms. Ashley Nurmela, *Confederation College Student Placement, Aboriginal Liaison Office*

PRESENT, cont'd

OFFICIALS:

Ms. Karen Lewis, *Director - Corporate Strategic Services*
Ms. A. Magiskan, *Aboriginal Liaison – Office of the City Clerk*
Ms. Maureen Nadin, *Committee Resource*
Ms. Linda Douglas, *Committee Coordinator*

REGRETS:

Ms. E. St. Arnaud, *Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique des Aurores Boréales*
Dr. Amy Farrell-Morneau, *Lakehead District School Board*
Mr. Derek Anderson, *Métis Nation of Ontario*
Mayor Keith Hobbs
Ms. Colleen Peters, *Thunder Bay Youth Strategy*
Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux, *Lakehead University*

1.0 WELCOME & DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Ms. A. Abu-Bakare, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. There were no disclosures of interest declared at this time.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Under New Business, the following items were added:

- CCMARD (Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination);
- Leadership Thunder Bay;
- a request from James Murray – NetNewsLedger; and
- We are one!

MOVED BY: Councillor P. Pugh
SECONDED BY: Ms. T. Tucker

WITH REGARD TO the March 30, 2015 meeting of the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

3.0 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of Meeting No. 02-2015 of the Advisory Committee on Anti-Racism, held on February 23, 2015, for approval.

MOVED BY: Councillor P. Pugh
SECONDED BY: Ms. S. Carney

THAT the Minutes of Meeting No. 02-2015 of the Advisory Committee on Anti-Racism, held on February 23, 2015, be approved.

CARRIED

4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Terms of Reference

Deferred to the next meeting.

5.0 MEDIA RELEASE – FACEBOOK PAGES

On March 23, 2015, a media release from the Thunder Bay Police Service regarding racially charged comments that have been posted on two Facebook pages was forwarded to members of the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee.

Inspector D. Lewis provided an overview of events leading up to the media release. The Thunder Bay Police Service Cyber Crime Unit is monitoring the situation. The Police Service is working with the Crown Attorney's Office to determine if there are specific criminal offences.

Ms. A. Magiskan, Aboriginal Liaison, also spoke on the issue. More work is needed on educating the community about Aboriginal culture.

The City needs to keep going forward with positive values, messages and campaigns.

It was noted that there is no city without homelessness and marginalized people.

6.0 WORKING GROUP UPDATES

6.1 Public Education and Advocacy Working Group

Copies of the minutes from the March 12, 2015 meeting of the Working Group and updated strategy were provided for information.

Councillor R. Johnson reported that this Working Group will complete its work on the Becky Kuffner event, and will continue with coordinating the Chronicle Journal column, *One City, Many Voices*; however, it will go no further until a decision is made (through the Terms of Reference revisions) relative to if the working groups will go forward.

Posters for the Becky Kuffner event, *Shifting the Lens: Understanding Racism*, were circulated at the meeting and were at the sign-in table. Committee members were encouraged to attend the event and/or distribute the posters in the community.

Volunteer Position Available

One City, Many Voices, a monthly column published in the Chronicle Journal, is now in its 4th year. Each month a different person writes the column. Maureen Nadin who writes for the Chronicle Journal is available for editing help. Initially writers were recruited from Diversity Thunder Bay and the City Anti Racism Advisory Committee. Now the pool of writers has broadened to include others in the community.

A **co-ordinator** is needed to ensure that there is a writer in place for each month and that the article is submitted on time.

Ms. J. Verdenik volunteered to lead the coordination of this column going forward. There is no term for this position.

6.2 respect.

Ms. K. Lewis, Director - Corporate Strategic Services, advised that she has asked staff to organize a working group meeting.

It was the consensus of the Committee that Working Group Updates be removed from the agenda until the Terms of Reference are finalized.

7.0 NEWCOMERS EXPO

Copies of the information package on the Newcomers Expo, which was held on February 20, 2015 at the Lakehead University Agora, were available at the meeting upon request.

The package provides good information about the welcoming community initiative that the Committee has had past discussions about.

8.0 ROUNDTABLE OF UPDATES

Members provided updates on the activities of their respective organizations, as follows:

Ms. T. Tucker, Thunder Bay Public Library, reported that they are working with Leadership Thunder Bay on the Human Library program. Copies of a flyer advertising the Human Library were circulated at the meeting.

Copies of correspondence from Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, Chair of the Community Communications Committee, dated March 25, 2015, relative to the City's Boards and Committees providing input into City Council's 2015 – 2018 Strategic Plan, were distributed separately on desks at the meeting.

Ms. K. Lewis, Director - Corporate Strategic Services, provided an overview of the correspondence and responded to questions. Discussion was held relative to the three questions asked in the correspondence.

In your view as a Committee, what are the most important issues facing the City today?

- Racism – this Committee recognizes that the City has a racism problem.

What issues should receive the greatest attention from City Council?

- Racism.

As a Committee, what is your vision for the City of Thunder Bay?

- Living in a healthy, inter-racial community where we support each other.
- Our children live in a safe environment.
- The City raises awareness in the community that it's the responsibility of every individual to make the City a safe place to live.

Ms. C. Woodbeck left the meeting at 12:54 p.m.

Mr. M. Makuto, Regional Multicultural Youth Council, thanked the Committee for recognizing their work by presenting them with the respect. Award at the Diversity Breakfast. Members of RMYC are meeting with local schools to discuss racism. He would like to see this Committee working with school boards and teachers on how to make the schools safer and on how to combat racism.

Mr. V. Simon noted that there was no coverage in the Chronicle Journal about the Diversity Breakfast.

Ms. A. Magiskan, Aboriginal Liaison, reported that the Walk a Mile videos, as well as the curriculum, have now been translated into French. An announcement in this regard will be made

on April 9th at a training event being held at Silver City. The Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs will announce that the videos and curriculum will be distributed across Ontario to all schools and libraries.

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

9.1 We are one!

Ms. A. Nurmela, Confederation College Student, provided an overview of an upcoming event scheduled for April 15, 2015 at Confederation College. The event is called *We are one!* and is being organized by the Native and Child Family Services Program. Stand up t-shirts can be purchased, or the supporter can wear a red t-shirt. The actual location at Confederation College has not been confirmed.

The organizing committee will contact Ms. J. Verdenik about further promotion of the event.

Copies of the poster were distributed separately on desks at the meeting.

Committee members were encouraged to support and attend this event.

9.2 Leadership Thunder Bay

Councillor R. Johnson advised that Leadership Thunder Bay hosted an Aboriginal Youth Leadership workshop over the past weekend. An overview of the workshop was provided.

9.3 CCMARD

Councillor R. Johnson noted that CCMARD (the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities against Racism Discrimination) is celebrating their 10th anniversary. The City of Thunder Bay was one of the original signatories on the coalition. CCMARD has asked that their logo be added to the City's letterhead and communications. More information in this regard will be provided to Corporate Strategic Services for a decision.

It was suggested, as a compromise, that their logo be added to the Committee's webpage.

9.4 NetNewsLedger.com

Councillor R. Johnson reported that Mr. James Murray – NetNewsLedger.com has made another request to share the *One City, Many Voices* column on his website.

Discussion was held relative to the Committee's relationship with the Chronicle Journal and the value of sharing the column with NetNewsLedger.com.

MOVED BY: Councillor P. Pugh

SECONDED BY: Ms. T. Tucker

THAT the relationship with the Chronicle Journal relative to the One City, Many Voices column remains status quo.

CARRIED

10.0 NEXT MEETING

Committee meetings are scheduled monthly, on the last Monday of each month, except July and August, from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., in the McNaughton Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, unless otherwise notified.

- April 27
- May 25
- June 22
- September 28
- October 26
- November 30
- December 21 (please note change of date, due to room availability)

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:36 p.m.